

6 APR 1983

Status of SAFE Early Capability (SEC)

4 April 1983

Subject: SAFE

In order to keep all Offices informed on the status of the SEC, this report will be published weekly by the ASG/RTC/Systems Development Branch and distributed to all DI Office Directors and SAFE Coordinators. If you have any questions concerning its content you can call [redacted] on extension [redacted]

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STATHardware/Software

The system operated very reliably during the past week with one major exception. On the morning of 1 April the system was unavailable for approximately two hours due to COMTEN and trunk line problems (the trunk line transfers data between the [redacted] and SAFE Computer Centers). Earlier in the week the component coordinators from the three former PMO user branches reported their analysts were quite pleased with the SEC.

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SURE, in coordination with CSPO and the component coordinators from the former PMO user branches, is preparing to conduct the user performance test on 8 April at 1030 hours. This test will be used to judge system performance in a multi-user environment. With the assistance of the three former PMO branches, we will progressively stress the system with increasing numbers of users during a 20-minute test period, while the SURE test administrator, assisted by CSPO, analyzes system performance at regular sampling intervals.

Training

The short course for existing PMO users will begin today.

The SURE staff received the SEC Users Manual from P&PD on 30 March and initial dissemination to members of the SAFE planning community is underway. Members of the DI user community will receive copies of the manual when they attend SAFE training: Unclassified versions in the class, which will be upgraded to the full SCI version when they return to their offices.

There are still several vacancies in the new user courses beginning on 11 April and 18 April. PLEASE do all you can to get these classes filled.

Renovations/Terminal Installations

The systems furniture for NESA (7G00), 3 stations, and ALA (4F39), 1 station, is scheduled for installation this week. This is the older PMO furniture and is not to be confused with the furniture presently being installed in other offices.

The furniture for OGI (2G00, 3G31, 3G46) was received on 30 March and is scheduled for installation this week. These are the offices that are scheduled to be phased into SEC this month.

Terminals were installed in NESA (6G00) on 2 April. The screens for that area have been delivered and are scheduled for installation this week.

Miscellaneous

A number of analysts have expressed concern about the length of time that message traffic will be available to them in the SEC. Of particular interest is the relationship between the Text File, Mail Files, and the analyst/component files called SAVE files. The Text File retains messages for 90 days, Mail Files hold 20-days worth of traffic and the SAVE files can hold messages indefinitely.

All SEC users will have access to the 90-day Text File. This file retains a copy of every message received by the SEC for 90 days and is used for retrospective text searching. As messages reach the 91st day in the file they are loaded onto magnetic tape for archival storage. If a SEC user wants to make a retrospective search for information older than 90 days, he should contact the SURE staff to have the appropriate tape(s) read into the system so that the data can be searched.

Mail files contain messages on subjects and/or geographic areas of interest to an analyst or a component. Profiles, statements of the reading requirements of an individual or group, are the mechanism that deliver messages to mail files. Messages can reside in a mail file for up to 20 days. On the 21st day they "drop off" the end of the mail file. Messages in Mail files can however, be retained indefinitely in SAVE files.

SEC users can retain message traffic from their Mail files or from the results of a search of the 90-day Text File in their SAVE files. SAVE file messages will be retained for as long as a user desires. Both the Text and the SAVE files are available online for search purposes.

The SURE staff has begun SEC preparations for four branches of OGI: The C/SURE has met with the OGI managers and SAFE Office coordinator and members of SURE have begun to interview OGI analysts in preparation for the profile-building task.

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